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STATE PUBLICATIONS.

State Publications: a Provisional List of the Official Publications of the Several States of the United States from their Organization. Compiled under the editorial direction of R. R. Bowker. Part I: New England States. New York. Office of the Publishers' Weekly. 1899. Pp. 99.

This work had its origin in the desire to make the wealth of information in government documents more available for the use of students than it is at the present time. The editor, Mr. Bowker, is undertaking it as a work of love. Certainly the student body of this country are under great obligations and should be prompt in rendering their acknowledgments. In this publication the States are arranged geographically rather than alphabetically. This method of arrangement brings together, at the beginning, the publications of the original or older States which have the most comprehensive and systematic series of publications. The plan adopted is to enter first that general publications of the State, if any, which mass into a volume or a series of volumes, its general public documents. The constitution or records of constitutional conventions and commissions makes the first general division. Then follow the executive and staff officers who transact the routine business of the State; the inspection boards, commissions, etc., who care for the inspection and regulation of business in the State, as insurance, mines, and railroads, or record the statistics of labor, agriculture, schools, etc.; and the institutions in which business is carried on by the State, including its schools, libraries, asylums, hospitals, prisons, etc. The judiciary is the next division, followed by the legislative, and finally the miscellaneous or special. The supplementary list covers the pre-State period, colonial or territorial, including reprints or collections of documents. The editor, in his preface, recognizes the assistance rendered by Miss Frances B. Hawley, in the preparation of this list.

NOTES.

Report of the Director of the Twelfth Census to the Secretary of the Interior. 1899. Washington. Pp. 5.

Hon. William R. Merriam, Director of the Census, under date of November 1st, submits the first report of the operations of the census

office. Brief reference is made to the organization of the office and the preliminary work. The schedules for agricultural products and population have been determined upon, and the division of vital statistics is in correspondence with Boards of Health throughout the country. The manufacturing interests of the country have been grouped together in sixteen classes. A special agent has been appointed to look after the census in the Hawaiian Islands, and two special agents have been selected for the district of Alaska. A contract has been made for the lease of a building especially erected for the census office, right of purchase being reserved to the government. It is estimated that there will be required for the purpose of taking the census over 50,000 enumerators, over 2500 clerks, and over 2000 special agents. The clerical force has been apportioned to the various States and Territories on a population basis.

In the annual *Report of the United States Indian Inspector for the Indian Territory for the year ending June 30, 1899* (p. 18), an estimate is made of the total population of the Indian Territory, compiled from the records of the Dawes Commission. The estimate is as follows:—

Cherokees	34,000
Choctaws	19,000
Creeks	14,500
Chickasaws	10,500
Seminoles	3,000
Total white population	200,000
Total population	281,000

In *The Association Review*, an educational magazine published by the "Association to Promote the Teaching of Speech to the Deaf and Dumb," December, 1899, there is (p. 223) a statement in regard to the efforts made by President Bell of the Census Committee of the Association to secure proper statistics of the deaf and dumb for the Twelfth Census. The Census Committee empowered the President to communicate with the Census Bureau, and to recommend that in collecting the institutional statistics relating to the deaf, the same form of special schedule be employed that was used in the 1890 census. This card catalogue contains about 40,000, and includes details concerning all the pupils admitted to schools for the deaf from the

founding of the American School at Hartford in 1817 up to 1890. It appears from letters written by Dr. F. H. Wines of the Census Office that under the law no special census will be taken of the defective classes in 1890.

In the *Twenty-seventh Annual Report of the New York County Visiting Committee for Bellevue Hospital and Other Public Institutions*, under date of October 1, 1899, to the State Charities Aid Association, it is reported that the number of inmates in the charity department is decreasing in spite of the fact that there is a yearly increase in the total population of New York city, estimated at 3.4 per cent. This decrease is attributed to better industrial conditions and also to more careful discrimination in the admission of inmates.

There is an increase in the number of paid employees, which is partly due to the substitution of paid rates for prison labor.

In the Infants' Hospital there is a notable decrease in the death rate. The death rate among the various classes of children for the years ending October 1, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, has been as follows:—

	1896. Per cent.	1897. Per cent.	1898. Per cent.	1899. Per cent.
Foundlings	78	80	63	43
"Orphans," i. e., babies, other than foundlings, received without their mothers	60	59	29	30
Children received with their mothers	14	13	08	06

It is remarked that the death rate of 1898 and 1899, as compared with the two previous years, is really somewhat less striking than the above table would indicate. The children of the wet nurses employed in the institution are, according to the system of book-keeping long in use, included among the orphan children, though they are not orphans in any real sense, being nursed by their own mothers, and their chances of life are considered better than those of any other class of children in the institution.

Report to the Legislature of New York by the Joint Committee on Taxation. January 15, 1900. Pp. 19. Tables 6.

The Committee believes that the most practical reform lies in the direction of raising the State revenue otherwise than by direct levy

upon assessed valuations of property. In the first place, there is a difficulty in equalizing the assessed valuations of real property; secondly, it is a fundamental principle that the State should have an independent jurisdiction of taxation into which it alone may go; and thirdly, a result of separation of the State from local taxation would be the strict accountability to which local officers would be held in the field of local finance.

It was first considered possible to withdraw from local taxation, railroads, telegraph, telephones, electric companies, gas, water, and pipe line companies, banks and trust companies, and by levying upon these corporations taxes for State purposes, but its detailed consideration included objections. An interesting investigation was made as to the sums paid by such corporations in the several towns of three of the counties of the State,—Oswego, Chhattaraugus, and Chenango. It was found that in the County of Oswego steam railroads alone in 1897 paid 9.03 per cent of the taxes; in the County of Cattaraugus, 11.89 per cent; and in the County of Chenango, 7.97 per cent. Statistically, this investigation is of great value. It is believed that this is the first time that the entire annual taxes paid in any county of New York have been collated, except in the City of New York, where there is but one tax.

The Committee has resolved to recommend a State tax of \$5,000,000 upon the indebtedness secured by mortgage upon corporate and individual real property, which the Committee believe will produce not less than \$10,000,000. The reasons for this recommendation are stated at length. It is consequently urged that mortgaged property should be exempted altogether from local taxation. The recommendation proceeds upon the assumption that there are \$2,000,000,000 of mortgaged indebtedness in the State. It is also proposed to levy a tax of one per cent upon the stock of national banks, State banks, and trust companies. These institutions, again, are to be relieved from local taxation.

In the *Economist* for December 9, 1899, comment is made on the report of the "Inspector General in Companies Liquidation" in regard to the extent to which insolvency prevails amongst joint stock companies in England and to the losses resulting therefrom. It appears that in 1898 there were 4653 new companies. Of these,

1742 companies on the register have gone into liquidation, and 865 companies have been removed from the registry on other grounds (abortive or defunct without liquidation). The rate of mortality was greater in 1898 than in 1897. "The fact that each year the liquidations amount to about one-third of the new registrations points clearly to a degree of rottenness amongst the number of flotations that urgently calls for immediate treatment." It is estimated that there is a total loss of over £111,800,000 resulting from company liquidations in the past five years. The Inspector General ascribes the rottenness that so largely prevails to the looseness of the law in regard to the duties of the directors.

The Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department calls attention to changes in the arrangement of the *Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance*, beginning with the first volume of the fiscal year 1899-1900. By this certain information which appears likely to be useful to producers, manufactures, and exporters in the United States is brought to the opening pages of the volume with the purpose of making them more readily accessible, while the tables which are each month consulted by those interested are transferred to other pages. The tables are grouped: 1st, financial; 2nd, prices; 3rd, foreign commerce.

The *Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of New York for 1899* devotes considerable attention to industrial accidents. It is estimated that among the whole number of workers in the factories and shops of New York State about 700 met death during the year through accidents. This does not include fatal accidents to railway employees, this number being estimated at 210. It is further estimated that there are probably not fewer than 40,000 injuries all told sustained by the working people engaged in the manufacturing industries of the State. A special effort was made during the months of April, May, and June to secure from a selected list of factories as complete a record as possible of accidents. The number of employees covered was 452,425, not quite half the number engaged in manufacturing industries in the State. The number injured to each 1000 employed was 16.11. This rate is stated to be absurdly low when compared with German and Austrian statistics. Classifications are made of

injuries by character, and by industries, and period of disability. The total number of working days lost by 1330 injured persons was 19,557, which is a per capita average of 15 days. The statistical treatment is followed by a consideration of the legal action of the State in such matters, with a discussion of liability insurance.

ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNTS.

The following is taken from the *Minnesota Bulletin of Charities and Corrections*, December, 1899:—

The compiling of the analyzed accounts of the State Institutions, for which provisions was made by the last legislature, is proceeding satisfactorily. The Governor, as President of the State Board of Corrections and Charities, invited the Boards of Trustees, the Stewards of the various institutions, together with the State Auditor, the Public Examiner, and the Secretary of the State Board of Corrections and Charities to meet at his office and confer as to the proposed analysis. The very complete classification prepared by the Secretary of the State Board of Corrections and Charities in 1886, and adopted at a similar meeting in that year, was endorsed, with immaterial changes. Upon the motion of the Stewards, the articles that have come into general use since 1886 were added to their proper classifications and endorsed at the last meeting.

Although it materially increases their work, the Stewards of the various institutions have entered into the matter of the analysis with the spirit of thorough coöperation. It is confidently believed that they will find this analysis to be increasingly useful and an aid to the most satisfactory purchasing.

The books have been written up for four months, which perhaps is not sufficiently long to make any surprising discoveries. In fact, it did not appear to be the expectation of the Legislature that anything startling would be developed, but rather that the compilation of the analyzed accounts would enable the Governor and the Legislature, as well as the Boards and Institution Officials quickly to find in convenient, comparative form a statement of the various articles of consumption for various periods and thus lead to fuller knowledge